

# INFORMATION LETTER

## NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

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### Status of Omnibus Farm Bill

The House Agriculture Committee on June 5 began executive consideration of the Administration's omnibus farm bill, H. R. 6400. During the week, it approved Title III (agricultural credit) with amendments, and began work on Title IV (farmer co-operatives). Another meeting on the bill is scheduled for June 12.

The Senate Agriculture Committee on June 5 concluded its questioning of Agriculture Secretary Freeman on S. 1643, a companion bill. The Committee will begin to consider the bill in executive session sometime next week.

### U. K. Import Controls

Britain will remove controls on dollar imports of canned fruit other than canned apples and canned citrus, effective August 1.

Quota restrictions have been maintained on imports of canned fruit from dollar sources since the end of World War II.

The only dollar canned fruit on which import restrictions will be retained are canned apples, to be controlled from all non-sterling sources, and canned grapefruit segments and canned orange and grapefruit juice, to be controlled from the dollar area only.

### International Food Reserve

The Senate on June 1 adopted a resolution, S. Res. 128, expressing the sense of the Senate that "the President should explore with other nations the establishment of an international food and raw materials reserve under the auspices of the United Nations and related international organizations for the purpose of acquiring and storing in appropriate countries raw or processed farm products and other raw materials, exclusive of minerals," with a view to their use in market stabilization, preventing famine, ab-

### USDA Appropriations Bill Would Establish Special Fund for Research on Emergency Basis as Problems Arise

The House on June 6 passed and sent to the Senate the bill, H. R. 7444, making appropriations for the USDA for the fiscal year 1962. The bill provides \$5.9 billion, which is some \$141 million below the amount requested in the budget but \$1.9 billion more than the appropriation for the current year.

The increase for the coming year is accounted for largely by a special appropriation to finance foreign assistance programs, including P. L. 480, so as to relieve the CCC of the financial burden of advancing funds for such programs.

The House Appropriations Committee, in its report, earmarked increases of \$60,000 for intensifying research on pear decline and other rootstock problems, and \$600,000 for utilization research on fibers, fruits and vegetables. The Committee also established in the appropriations bill, for the first time, a special contingency fund of \$1 million to enable the Agricultural Research Service to take effective research action at once when a serious problem arises.

The Appropriations Committee noted that, as in previous years, many persons appeared before the Committee in support of additional funds for various projects which had not been included in the 1962 budget, and that "in most cases the proposed research projects are those which the Committee had hoped the Advisory Committees would urge the Department to undertake by shifts in emphasis within present funds."

On May 2 three N.C.A. witnesses appeared before a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee

sorting temporary surpluses, and aid and development programs.

Participation by the United States in such a program, the resolution states, would be contingent upon statutory authorization or treaty approval.

A Senate resolution does not require concurrence by the House. It merely expresses the will of the Senate and has no other authority or force.

to request that larger sums of money be allocated within the existing USDA budget for research on the problems of fruit and vegetable production. The N.C.A. did not ask for an increase in the USDA budget request (see INFORMATION LETTER of May 6, page 161).

The Appropriations Committee said it "is somewhat disappointed that the Advisory Committee system has not been more effective in screening these proposals and in getting the Department, to the greatest extent possible, to transfer personnel and shift its facilities to meet these urgent problems."

The Committee recommended that the ARS consider utilizing the special contingency fund for work on some of the more urgent research needs presented to the Committee.

For the school lunch program the bill provides \$125 million, an increase of \$15 million over the 1961 appropriation and \$5 million over the budget request. In addition, the bill provides for the transfer of \$45 million from Section 32 funds, the same amount of transfer authority as in the current fiscal year.

The Appropriations Committee recalled, in its report, that it had provided for the establishment of a special weather reporting and forecasting system in the Mississippi Delta to disseminate weather information in a manner best suited for agricultural purposes. The Committee recommended that both the USDA and the Weather Bureau make a survey of the need for this type of weather information in other sections and provided \$20,000 for a study of the matter.

The House-passed bill was referred on June 7 to the Senate Appropriations Committee, where hearings have been concluded. The N.C.A. on May 19 filed a statement with that Committee similar to the one it filed with the House Appropriations Committee on May 2.

### Legislative Proposals in the 87th Congress

This is a report on the status of bills introduced in the first session of the 87th Congress which may be of interest to canners. Unless otherwise noted, no action has been taken. (Bill numbers and the Committees to which they have been referred are indicated in *italics*.)

#### Antitrust Laws

*S. 11* (Kefauver) would amend the Clayton Act, as amended by the Robinson-Patman Act, to restrict the "good faith" defense against a charge of price discrimination; *Judiciary*.

*H.R. 3563* (Patman) would amend the Clayton Act to require prior notification of corporate mergers and acquisitions; *Judiciary*.

*H.R. 4008* (Roosevelt) would amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to provide for the issuance of temporary "cease and desist" orders to prevent certain acts and practices pending completion of FTC proceedings; *Commerce*.

#### Consumer Interests

*S. 1688* (Kefauver et al.) would create a Department of Consumers to which would be transferred the FDA and certain components of the USDA, Labor Dept. and Commerce Dept.; *Government Operations*.

*S. Res. 115* (Neuberger et al.) would create a Select Committee on Consumer Interests; *Government Operations*.

*S. Res. 119* (Javits et al.) would establish a Select Committee on Consumers; *Banking*.

*H. Res. 240* (Anfuso) and companion bills would create a select committee "to conduct studies and investigations of the problems of consumers;" *Rules*.

#### Co-op Taxation

*H.R. 5775* (Davis, Tenn.) would "provide tax equity through the taxation of cooperative corporations and provide tax credits for recipients of dividends from genuine cooperatives;" *Ways and Means*.

#### Factory Inspection

An omnibus food, drug, and cosmetic bill which, among its provisions, would expand the factory inspection powers of the FDA, is being prepared for submission to Congress by HEW Secretary Ribicoff.

*H.R. 1235* (Sullivan) would enlarge the factory inspection authority of the FDA; *Commerce*.

#### Farm Labor

*H.R. 2010* (Gathings), as passed by the House May 11, would extend the Mexican farm labor program for two years. It will be the subject of hearings June 12-13 by a subcommittee of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

The N.C.A. filed a statement in the House supporting the extension of the program.

*S. 1945* (McCarthy et al.) would authorize the Secretary of Labor to withhold workers recruited under the Mexican farm labor program from employers who fail to meet certain criteria; *Agriculture*.

Six bills introduced by Senator Williams (N.J.) to alleviate the problems of migratory farmworkers and their families are pending before the Senate Committee on Labor and Public Welfare:

*S. 1123*, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act to prohibit the employment in agriculture, outside of school hours, of children below the age of 14.

*S. 1124*, to provide certain payments to assist states and local communities in improving educational opportunities for migratory farmworkers' children.

*S. 1125*, to provide grants for the education of adult migrants.

*S. 1126*, to require federal registration of contractors of migratory farmworkers.

*S. 1130*, to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for improving the health services and conditions of migratory farmworkers and their families.

*S. 1132*, to establish a National Citizens Council on Migratory Labor.

Hearings on *S. 1129* (Williams, N.J.), to authorize the Secretary of Labor to regulate the recruitment, transportation and distribution of agricultural workers, were held May 17-18 by the Senate Subcommittee on Migratory Labor.

Hearings on *S. 1127* (Williams, N.J.) and *S. 1249* (Holland) to help provide housing for domestic farm labor, were held May 31 and June 1 by the Senate Subcommittee on Housing.

Additional bills introduced by Senator Williams, on which no hearings have been scheduled, are:

*S. 1122*, to establish a minimum wage for certain persons employed in agriculture; *Subcommittee on Migratory Labor*.

*S. 1128* to extend the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act to agriculture; *Subcommittee on Migratory Labor*.

*S. 1131*, to further assist states in establishing and operating day-care facilities for children of migratory farm workers; *Finance*.

Hearings on four companion bills introduced by Representative Zelenko (N.Y.) were held May 9, 10, 19 and 20 by the House Select Subcommittee on Labor:

*H.R. 5285*, to establish a National Citizens Council on Migratory Labor.

*H.R. 5289*, to require federal registration of contractors of migratory farmworkers.

*H.R. 5290*, to authorize the Secretary of Labor to regulate the recruitment, transportation, and distribution of migratory farmworkers.

*H.R. 5291*, to prohibit the employment of children under 15 in agriculture.

#### Fishery Products

*S. 901* (Magnuson) to establish a national 10-year program of oceanographic research and surveys, was ordered to be reported, with amendments, on May 23 by the Senate Commerce Committee. The N.C.A. testified on March 17 in support of the bill's objectives.

*S. 1189* (Magnuson), to authorize the U. S. Coast Guard to conduct certain oceanographic research, was reported June 6, amended, by the Senate Commerce Committee.

*H.R. 6845* (Geo. P. Miller), to expand the functions of the Coast Guard to include oceanographic research, was passed by the House June 5 and sent to the Senate, which placed it on the calendar.

*S. 1230* (Gruening et al.), to reappportion Saltonstall-Kennedy funds and provide additional federal assistance to the states for rehabilitation and development of fishery resources, will be the subject of a hearing June 15 by the Senate Commerce Committee.

*H.R. 615* (Anfuso) would reappportion funds available under the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act; *Fisheries*.

*H.R. 657* (Colmer) would impose an ad valorem duty of 35 percent on all imports of shrimp in any form; *Ways and Means*.

*H.R. 573* (Thompson) and identical bills would establish quotas for the importation of shrimp and shrimp products, impose a duty on unprocessed shrimp imported in excess of those quotas, and impose a duty on processed shrimp as well as prohibit its importation in excess of established quotas; *Ways and Means*.

*S. 1222* (Yarborough and Smathers), as passed by the Senate May 26, provides that a U. S. fishing vessel which occasionally takes on board, on the high seas, and transports to a U. S. port without a monetary consideration, the catch of another U. S. fishing vessel shall not be considered to be engaged in the transportation of freight for hire; *Fisheries*, where similar House bills are pending.

*H.R. 5301* (Rivers, Alaska) would provide for funds from customs receipts to be allocated to state agencies; *Fisheries*.

*S. 606* (Bush and Dodd), to construct a shellfisheries research center at Milford, Conn., was reported June 7 by the Senate Commerce Committee.

*H.R. 7336* (Downing) would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to make loans and to furnish disease-resistant stock to oyster producers in areas of the United States in which the economic stability of the oyster

industry is threatened by excessive oyster mortality; *Fisheries*.

#### Marketing Orders

**H.R. 6400** (Cooley) and **S. 1643** (Ellender), the Administration's omnibus farm bill, would authorize marketing orders, marketing quotas, and price supports for canning crops. The N.C.A. appeared May 5 before the *House Agriculture Committee* and on May 17 before the *Senate Agriculture Committee* to request that canning crops be exempted from the bill. Both committees have completed hearings.

**S. 1389** (McCarthy et al.) and **H.R. 159** (Slak) would authorize federal marketing programs for turkeys and turkey products; *Agriculture*.

**H.R. 1106** (Ullman) would authorize marketing orders for chickens, turkeys, Irish potatoes, and onions; *Agriculture*.

**H.R. 5583** (Clem Miller) would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to issue marketing orders for apples produced in the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California for canning and freezing; *Agriculture*.

**S. 1462** (Engle and Kuchel), to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to establish minimum standards of quality for certain grapes and plums, was passed by the Senate May 26; *House Agriculture Committee*.

**H.R. 7350** (Miller, N.Y.) would make all apples, both for fresh sale and for processing, eligible for marketing orders, except for apple products which are canned or frozen; *Agriculture*.

**H.R. 4125** (Kilgore) would amend the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, so as to extend its restrictions on imported commodities to imported onions, lettuce, and carrots; *Agriculture*.

#### Taxation of Interstate Commerce

**H.R. 4363** (Willis) would require the Congress to make a study of "all matters pertaining to the taxation of interstate commerce" by the states, territories, and possessions of the U. S., the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, or their political or taxing subdivisions; *Judiciary*.

### Poultry Used in Processing

(Statistical Reporting Service of USDA)

	Jan.-April cumulative 1960	1961 (thousands of pounds)
Young chickens.....	23,506	60,964
Mature chickens.....	63,331	80,357
Turkeys.....	23,140	37,068
Other poultry.....	37	11,958
Total.....	110,016	190,347

Beginning with October, 1960, data on poultry parts and fat used in canning are no longer available by class of poultry and are included in "other."

### Forthcoming Meetings

June 11-12—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Spring Meeting, Whitcomb Hotel, St. Joseph

June 12-14—Maine Canners' and Freezers' Association, 49th Annual Meeting, The Colony, Kennebunkport

June 16-22—National Association of Retail Grocers, 53d Annual Convention, Convention Hall, Philadelphia

June 19-21—Grocery Manufacturers of America, Inc., Midyear Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

June 21-24—Processed Apples Institute, Inc., 10th Annual Meeting, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

June 25-26—Ohio Canners and Food Processors Association, Spring Meeting, Catawba Cliffs Beach Club, Port Clinton

July 5-21—N. C. A. Midwestern Canners Technicians School, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

July 19—National Kraut Packers Association, Catawba Cliffs Beach Club, Port Clinton, Ohio

July 24-28—Ohio Canners and Food Processors Association, Tomato Canners Quality Control Conference, Ohio State University, Columbus

Sept. 11-13—Symposium on Foods, Oregon State College, Corvallis

Sept. 19-27—World Nutritional Fishery Conference, FAO, Rome

Oct. 19-21—Florida Canners Association, 30th Annual Convention, Diplomat Hotel, Hollywood by the Sea

Nov. 13-14—Wisconsin Canners Association, 57th Annual Convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee

Nov. 20-21—Michigan Canners and Freezers Association, Fall Meeting, Pantlind Hotel, Grand Rapids

Nov. 20-21—Pennsylvania Canners Association, 47th Annual Convention, Yorktowne Hotel, York

Nov. 27-28—Ohio Canners and Food Processors Association, 54th Annual Convention, Commodore Perry Hotel, Toledo

Dec. 5-8—New York State Canners and Freezers Association, 76th Annual Convention, Hotel Concord, Kiamasha Lake

Dec. 9-15—National Food Brokers Association, National Food Sales Conference, Chicago

Jan. 10-12—Illinois Canners Association, Canners School, Urbana

Jan. 11-12—Canners League of California, 39th Annual Fruit and Vegetable Sample Cuttings, Fairmount Hotel, San Francisco

Jan. 19-20—National Preservers Association, Annual Meeting, Galt Ocean Mile Hotel, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Jan. 21-24—NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION and Canning Machinery and Supplies Association, 55th Annual Conventions, Americana Hotel, Bal Harbour, Fla.

Feb. 11-13—Canadian Food Processors Association, Annual Convention, Bayshore Inn, Georgia and Cardero Sts., Vancouver, B. C.

March 18-20—Canners League of California, 58th Annual Meeting, Santa Barbara Biltmore, Santa Barbara

### Sampling of Apricot Quality

The N.C.A. Western Research Laboratory and the University of California have announced a sampling program on apricot quality. The cooperation of apricot canners is requested to collect data in standard form on raw apricot firmness, size, color, Brix and acid. The color and character scores of canned samples will be compared with the raw fruit quality test results. At the same time information on variety, growing area, picking date and orchard practices will be recorded in a longer range study of the factors influencing apricot quality.

The study was suggested by the N.C.A. Committee on Statistical Quality Control. Preliminary studies in 1960, conducted by Dr. Gordon A. Rowe, University of California, with the cooperation of apricot canners, established sample sizes and indicated test procedures which would be useful to continue in 1961.

### MSSA Requirements for Canned Foods

Tentative requirements for canned concentrated tomato juice, canned pineapple, and canned pineapple juice from the 1961 crop to meet the needs of the armed services have been announced by the MSSA.

Procurement will be made by Headquarters, Oakland region, MSSA, 2155 Webster St., Alameda, Calif.

	Grade	Style	Can Size	Quantity (pounds)	Quantity (cases)
Pineapple, chunks.....	A or B	II or III	6/10..... 24/2½.....	2,271,000 1,846,000	56,074 41,022
Pineapple, crushed.....	A or B	IV(a)	6/10..... 24/2½.....	4,502,000 3,758,000	110,073 83,511
Pineapple, sliced.....	A or B	I	6/10..... 24/2.....	8,520,000 4,943,000	210,370 164,767
Pineapple juice.....	A		12/3 eyl.....	22,101,000	581,006
Tomato juice, concentrated.....			404 x 500 (35 oz.).....	3,480,000	132,662

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE		PAGE
<b>Congress</b>		<b>Meetings</b>	
USDA appropriations bill would establish special fund for research on emergency basis as problems arise .....	187	Forthcoming meetings .....	189
Status of omnibus farm bill.....	187	<b>Procurement</b>	
International food reserve.....	187	MSSA requirements for canned foods .....	189
Legislative proposals in the 87th Congress .....	188	<b>Research</b>	
<b>Foreign Trade</b>		Sampling of apricot quality.....	189
U. K. import controls.....	187	<b>Statistics</b>	
		Poultry used in processing.....	189